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<i>W. M. BOBER</i>	<i>W. M. Bober</i>	September 15, 2004
Name of Person Signing	Signature	Date



**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No. 203445  
Client Reference No.

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Mark A. Richmond et al.

Art Unit: 2839

Application No. 09/829,665

Examiner: N. Abrams

Filed: April 10, 2001


For: ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Mail Stop  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants provide the following Comments on the Statement for Reasons for Allowance.

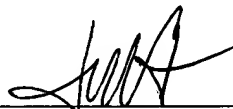
<b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.10</b>			
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Name (Print/Type)	JUANITA M. ROBER		
Signature		Date	September 15, 2004

In re Appln. of Richmond et al.  
Application No. 09/829,665

The Statement indicates that "Le Gallic and Germany 2,433,729 appear closest to claim 8 limitations". Applicants respectfully object to the use of the term "closest" as the Statement fails to explain the meaning of this term.

Although the Statement for Reasons for Allowance mentions certain features in the references cited and the claims, the claims are considered "as a whole" relative to the references cited. Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention "as a whole" is not suggested by the art, including Le Gallic and Germany 2,433,729,.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: September 15, 2004